

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 28, line 12 and ending at line 18, as follows:

As shown in Table 10, the rolling life in the presence of foreign particles is substantially in proportion to the nitrogen content in each of Examples 1 through 5. The upper limit of the nitrogen content is preferably 0.7 since Comparative Example 3 with a nitrogen content of 0.72 had a significantly shorter rolling life in the presence of foreign particles. Based on these examples, it can be seen that the concentration of NH₃ before decomposition in the furnace affects the content of nitrogen in steel.